

University of Massachusetts

Medical School



**Request for Proposal (RFP)
for
MassHealth Access Program –
Public Health Dental Hygienist Incentive Program
RFP Number
CW10-JD-0039-0001**

Due Date: May 14, 2010

Introduction

The University of Massachusetts/Worcester (the “University” and/or “University of Massachusetts Medical School” and/or “UMMS”) is issuing this Request for Proposal (the “RFP”) to solicit proposals for the MassHealth Access Program – Public Health Dental Hygienist Incentive Program, which is administered by the University’s Office of Community Programs (“OCP”) within the University’s Division of Commonwealth Medicine. “MassHealth” is otherwise known as the Massachusetts Medicaid Program.

The MassHealth Office of Acute and Ambulatory Care (“OAAC”) in the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (“EOHHS”) of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts supports the use of public health hygienists to deliver preventive oral health services in school-based settings. As part of this effort, the OAAC has allocated funds to use as an incentive to attract Public Health Dental Hygienists to provide preventive services in school based settings to MassHealth eligible children. Such funds are otherwise referred to in this RFP as “Grant” and/or “Grant Awards”.

The MassHealth Access Program (“MAP”), a collaboration of the OAAC and UMMS, is responsible for administering these funds and making Grant Awards in state fiscal year 2010. MAP has up to \$105,000 available in Grant funds and expects to award up to 7 Grants as a result of this competitive RFP. The Grants will be awarded to Public Health Dental Hygienists who best meet the Grant’s qualifications and the geographical needs of the MassHealth dental program.

Access to RFP and Follow-up Information

This RFP has been distributed electronically using the Commonwealth Procurement Access and Solicitation System (Comm-PASS), the OCP webpage <http://www.umassmed.edu/ocp/index.aspx> and through notification of the Massachusetts Dental Hygienist Association.

Any documents related to this RFP will be posted on Comm-PASS, <http://www.comm-pass.com>. Interested parties are solely responsible for checking Comm-PASS for any addenda or modifications that are subsequently made to this RFP. The Commonwealth and its subdivisions accept no liability and will provide no accommodation to interested parties who fail to check for amendments.

To access the Comm-PASS Vendor Information page for this specific RFP, please use this link:
<https://www.ebidsourcing.com/processPublicSolSummView.do?action=soltypeCd&docStatus=OPEN&docViewType=OPEN&docUserId=203925&doValidateToken=false&docId=120120&soltypeCd=UNIVERSAL>

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window displaying the Comm-PASS website. The address bar shows the URL: <https://www.ebidsourcing.com/processPublicSolSummView.do?action=soltypeCd&docStatus=OPEN&docViewType=OPEN&docUserId=203925&doValidateToken=false&docId=120120>. The website header includes the Comm-PASS logo, navigation links (Login, Help, Mass.Gov), and a menu bar with options: QUICK QUOTES, SOLICITATIONS, CONTRACTS, FORUMS, BUSINESS DIRECTORY, JOIN, FED STIMULUS, and RESOURCE CENTER. The breadcrumb trail reads: Home > Browse Solicitations > All Open > Entity > Department > List >. The main content area is titled "Summary" and contains a search bar with the text "Interested in Bid Partnering?". Below this, the document details are displayed in a table-like format:

Document Number: CW10-JD-0039-0001		Issued By: University of Massachusetts System / Medical School	
Summary Rules Issuer(s) Forms & Terms Specifications Other Information			
Document Title: Public Health Dental Hygienist Incentive Program		Version: 00000	
Document Status: OPEN			
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Comm-PASS Category: Health, Human and Social Services / OTHER-All Others Not Shown or Combinations			
Issuing Organization: University of Massachusetts System / Medical School			
Procurement Type: Open For Use Under Separate Contract Execution			
Applicable Procurement Law: Not applicable to this document.			
For Statewide Contract: No		Contains Federal Stimulus: No	
		Contains EPP: No	

On the right side of the page, there is a "Quick Tips..." section with the following text:

To inquire about a particular Solicitation, Contract, or Bidder Forum, contact the person listed on the Issuer tab within the specific record.

Please note that all information and file attachments contained in each tab of any Comm-PASS record are hereby incorporated by reference into the Solicitation, Bidders' Conference (Forum), and resulting Contract, if any, of that record.

It is the responsibility of every bidder to check Comm-PASS for both:

Any addenda or modifications to a Solicitation for which they intend to bid by monitoring the "Last Change" field on the Solicitation's summary page to ensure that they have the most recent Solicitation document.

Program Overview

In January 2009, Governor Patrick signed into law a new category of dental hygienist ("Public Health Dental Hygienist", also "PHDH") to increase access to preventive dental services for residents of the state, including MassHealth members (See M.G.L. c. 112, §51). Dental hygienists who meet the qualifications outlined in the law, as well as in the regulations promulgated by the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Dentistry may provide preventive dental services in settings such as schools without the

supervision of a dentist. MassHealth and Commonwealth Care, the state's subsidized health insurance, may also directly reimburse Public Health Dental Hygienists.

The purpose of this incentive program for Public Health Dental Hygienists is:

- to increase the number of MassHealth eligible children receiving preventive services in school settings by providing non-renewable competitive Grant funding to Public Health Dental Hygienists;
- to support Public Health Dental Hygienists in providing preventive dental services following evidence-based recommendations; and
- to assist and support Public Health Dental Hygienists in becoming sustainable MassHealth providers through revenue generated by billing MassHealth.

The MassHealth Access Program will be awarding up to seven Grant Awards of \$15,000 each for a total of \$105,000 to dental hygienists who:

- commit to working in targeted school districts providing preventive services for at least two years; award will be conditioned upon agreement to serve in a specified area; and
- provide such services to at least 750 unduplicated MassHealth eligible children during school year 2010-2011 and a cumulative total of at least 1500 unduplicated MassHealth eligible children by the close of school year 2011-2012.

Public Health Dental Hygienists will be expected to implement a school-based oral health prevention program which would include, at a minimum, dental screenings, oral health education, dental sealants, fluoride treatment, as well as referrals for restorative care as needed starting with students in 2nd and/or 6th grade. The program is expected to follow evidence-based guidelines set forth by the CDC and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Dental Hygienists are expected to provide follow up screenings and retention checks of dental sealants placed during the previous school year. For example, dental sealants placed in school year 2010-2011 must be checked in school year 2011-2012 and replaced if necessary at no charge to MassHealth or the child's family.

Public Health Dental Hygienists may also provide prevention services to MassHealth members in other grades in collaboration with the school administration.

Public Health Dental Hygienists may also provide dental screenings and at a minimum, referrals to non-MassHealth eligible school-aged children. Award will be conditioned upon agreement to serve in a specified area. Public Health Dental Hygienists must choose to implement their school-based oral health program in one of the following regions of the state, and at a minimum, have a signed letter of agreement with at least one school in their chosen region:

1. Plymouth, Wareham, Middleborough
2. North Attleboro, Mansfield, Norton, Taunton
3. Weymouth, Holbrook, Abington
4. Randolph, Stoughton, Braintree
5. Peabody, Danvers, Methuen, Dracut, Billerica
6. North Adams, Adams, Williamstown, Cheshire, Lanesborough
7. Southbridge, Oxford, Marlborough, Hudson
8. Athol, Greenfield, Gill, Orange
9. Pelham, Ludlow, Ware, Belchertown

The following resources will be made available to all Award Recipients upon award:

- An electronic toolkit with sample forms, including medical history, consent and parent report card (which notes what services were provided and what follow-up care is recommended). As well as additional resources for Public Health Dental Hygienists working in a school setting.
- A list of MassHealth participating providers in the region that will be providing school based services, where the patient may go for follow up care.